Editor's Note

From Insight to Intervention

rticles in this issue of Addiction Science & Clinical Practice address all three stages in the continuum of discovery, development, and implementation of evidence-based interventions. Two articles review basic research that is providing the foundation for new behavioral treatments and medications. One, by Dr. Thomas Gould, describes the two-stage process of addiction, knowledge of which can illuminate the experience of the disease for clinician and patient. In the other, Dr. Rachel Tyndale and Margaret Mroziewicz review pharmacogenetic findings that contribute to the understanding of why only some people who experiment with drugs develop dependence. This information may ultimately inform personalized addiction treatment.

Dr. Michael Robbins and colleagues provide an example of effectiveness research. They recount a test of whether multisystemic family therapy, which has been efficacious in research settings, can improve outcomes in community treatment programs. Their focus is on the ways that both the collaborating researchers and the program personnel amended business as usual to obtain results that were scientifically sound and widely applicable.

Once clinical trials confirm that a treatment is effective, its fate is in the hands of the community programs that implement or forgo it. A paper by Dr. Jody Sindelar and Dr. Samuel Ball and one by Dr. Steve Martino explore two of the issues that strongly influence this decision: cost and training. Drs. Sindelar and Ball outline a general approach to cost analysis—including cost categorizing, estimating, and tallying—while stressing that value, rather than cost, properly drives the implementation decision. Dr. Martino examines current evidence regarding which counselor training methods are best for inculcating new, high-quality clinical skills and sustaining them with fidelity.

Evidence-based treatments are currently the focus of intense investigation. This issue's authors and panelists represent a diverse blend of experiences and viewpoints, and their combined expertise helps unravel the complexities of the latest research. I encourage readers who wish to respond to any article or panel to post comments or queries on the journal's Reader Response Page: www.nida.nih.gov/ascp/feedback/.

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Editor

National Institute on Drug Abuse

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We invite you to join the discussion of the topics addressed in this issue. Visit our Reader Response Page at www.nida.nih.gov/ascp/feedback/ to make a comment or pose a question to an author.